Mrs. Mary A. Mateer

Carthage

Missouri

(c/ W. D. Mateer)

13 AUG
1895

Wooster April 26th 1895.

My Dear Mother:

It seems a long while since I heard from you direct. Will writes that you may come to Wooster next month. Well if you want to see Elizabeth's children as bad as I want to see Janet's little Margaretta, I do not wonder you want to come. We will all be very glad to see you, if you are able to come. I have been planning seriously but as yet nothing has come of it. I had all my arrangements made to go to Philadelphia to the Annual meeting but turned up with a neuralgia when the time came to go. I was so worn out getting ready, I was not sorry to give it up.

I think a little now of going by way of Mechanicstown to Jamestown not sure.

In that case I will have to start earlier. I took a severe cold some weeks since - a grip cold, and have not felt so well since. Now the weather has got suddenly so warm I seem to have no strength. That cold seemed to settle all over - a kind of general rheumatism - especially in my back.

Saturday evening. I am ready to go up to Chapel to a Prep. Contest Samuel has a declamation on which I helped train him. It is his first attempt and we are all a little nervous over it. I think he will do well. He will make a good speaker. I am so thankful for his father's sake.

Monday Morning - and again I am housed with a neuralgia. This variable weather I seem unable to keep from taking cold. I took this Saturday night. Sam took first place on the contest to our great

delight. He hoped he would be second but we did not expect Annie to be first. We deserved it – all admit this.

Just here I received letters from Mary and Will. They are both well. Mary was in Venice, having a lovely time. She expects to sail for N. Y. early in June. I expect to meet her at Jamestown. When I am ready to start I fear I cannot make myself take time to visit by the way. I am so anxious to see what baby I can scarcely wait.

I do not want to be either foolish or selfish however. I think Willie will go to Cornell University, at Ithaca N. Y. for a big weeks Summer term. Then he will go to Jamestown for the remainder of the Summer. Mary will come directly there from New York. Of course all these plans may be changed. I never count on anything – all our plans are necessarily uncertain. I do not take disappointments to heart as I once did.

Elizabeth and the Children are still in East Liverpool. Harrie does not know when to expect them home. He takes Sunday dinners with us. I am lonely without L. and the children I get so dismally lonely here sometimes, I can scarcely endure it.
The Dr. is away all the time, and I am quite alone most of it.
Mr. Nichols preached for us yesterday I was obliged to come home soon after he commenced as the windows were open and my head was getting worse every minute. This is the third time he has preached for us and he has preached down twice also.
His style is his own - different from what we generally get here.
We are to have Communion next Sabbath. I suppose Dr. Scovel will conduct the services Mrs. Scovel seems better in health after being South. Things in the University are not as cheering as they might be.
They may brighten up by Commencement

We are having warm weather now. after a long, cold month. The cherry trees are in blossom and the lilacs are showing their purple. Samuel brings me wild flowers - I must get to the woods myself soon and find them in their native haunts. You remember where the violets grow. My latest word from Janet reports her baby growing out of its clothes. She says it laps all night and half the day now. - that it is jolly in the mornings! She weighs 14½ pounds! Think of it! Her ordinary weight was 12½ lbs I think her features will disappear now sure enough. So much flesh does not become her.

Things in this community move on as usual. Mr. Leyenberger is very subdued since he had this stroke. He does not look well - I think he is alarmed about himself - fears a return of the trouble.

Our Thursday Club is to have a Garden party the 16th of May in Mrs Hankins Yard. We expect to invite the other two Ladies Clubs and their husbands.

To morrow evening Dr. K. and I go to a reception given at Mrs. Fitts by the Travellers Club. Elizabeth is a member of that Club. It is too bad that it may. I should not be surprised to see her home this evening. She does so little writing when she is away we know very little about her.

Miss Lizzie Black has had a hard winter. She was better but is not so well again. We fear she is in the same condition her father was - has enlargement of the brain. She is very frail. Work is commencing on the streets preparatory to paving - Bowman Street - the one Harris lives on, and Beall Avenue.

Tuesday morning- a lovely morning.
My head is better and I must go to work
have a full day before me. Work keeps
piling up ahead of me all the time.
I have so little strength and get sick
tired almost every day.

I have not heard from any of the
family in a long while. How is Lily
getting along? Have you any news
from John? Now I must go
Hope you can write to me soon
if only a postal.

Most lovingly
Jennie.